

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please add or amend the claims to read as follows, and cancel without prejudice or disclaimer to resubmission in a divisional or continuation application claims indicated as cancelled:

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1-18 (Cancelled)

19. (**Currently amended**) A sushi maker comprising:

a base plate;

a roll-up sheet for holding a seaweed layer, the roll-up sheet being positionable on the base plate in a substantially flat configuration when held by clamps, rollable into a cylindrical configuration when released from the clamps;

a cooked-rice container with ~~[[an]]~~ a bottom opening for dispensing a layer of rice on the seaweed layer when held by the roll-up sheet, the area of the opening being substantially equal to the area of the seaweed layer on which rice is to be dispensed; and

a cutting device comprising one or more elongated retaining elements for retaining the rice within the cooked-rice container when no pressure is applied on the rice, yet allowing at least part of the rice to be extruded through the opening when the rice is compressed, wherein one or more elongated cutting elements for separating the dispensed layer of rice from rice contained in the container are movable across at least a portion of the opening after extruding the layer of rice from the opening.

20. (Previously presented) The sushi maker as claimed in claim 19, comprising a compression device for extruding rice from the container through the opening.

21-22 (**Canceled**)

23. (**Currently amended**) The sushi maker as claimed in claim ~~[[22]]~~ 19, wherein the ~~plurality of retaining elements~~ said one or more elongated retaining elements are substantially evenly spaced, and wherein ~~the cutting device comprises a plurality of~~ said one or more

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elongated cutting elements are substantially evenly spaced cutting elements for moving a predetermined distance across the layer of rice from a position substantially aligned with the retaining elements.

24. (Canceled)

25. (Currently amended) The sushi maker as claimed in claim [[24]] 23, wherein the predetermined distance is substantially equal to the space between two adjacent cutting elements of said one or more elongated cutting elements.

26. (Previously presented) The sushi maker as claimed in claim 19, comprising rails along which the container may be moved.

27. (Previously presented) The sushi maker as claimed in claim 19, comprising a mechanism attached to the base plate and engaging the clamps, the mechanism operable to controllably roll the roll-up sheet from its substantially flat configuration to its cylindrical configuration.

28. (Previously presented) The sushi maker as claimed in claim 27, wherein said mechanism is in the form of a left-hand right-hand rotatable screw, the screw engaging nuts attached to the clamps.

29. (Currently amended) The sushi maker as claimed in claim 19, wherein the cutting device comprises a wire said one or more elongated cutting elements comprise one or more wires.

30. (Currently amended) The sushi maker as claimed in claim 29, wherein said one or more wires are made of ~~the wire comprises~~ stainless steel.

31. (Previously presented) The sushi maker as claimed in claim 19, wherein the container is adapted to be moved with respect to the cutting device to slice off the rice layer.